

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA**

IN THE MATTER OF THE FILING BY)
COMMISSION PIPELINE SAFETY STAFF)
FOR APPROVAL OF A PENALTY FOR A)
PIPELINE SAFETY VIOLATION BY)
CROOKS MUNICIPAL GAS)

**ORDER APPROVING
STIPULATION AND DISMISSING
COMPLAINT WITHOUT
PREJUDICE**

PS13-002

On May 7, 2013, the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received a complaint from Pipeline Safety Staff (Staff) against Crooks Municipal Gas Utilities (Crooks) for violations of 49 CFR 192. Staff filed an Amended Complaint (Complaint) on July 23, 2013, alleging numerous violations of DIMP and other Pipeline Hazardous Materials Safety Administration regulations. On May 9, 2013, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing to interested individuals and entities on the Commission's PUC Weekly Filings electronic listserv. No petitions to intervene or comments were filed. On August 12, 2013, the Commission issued an Order for and Notice of Hearing setting the matter for hearing September 10, 2013. On September 5, 2013, the parties filed a Joint Request to Cancel Hearing, and the Commission issued an Order Canceling Hearing. On December 5, 2013, the parties filed a Stipulation and Request for Dismissal without Prejudice.

The Commission has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapters 1-26 and 49-34B.

At its regular meeting on December 17, 2013, the Commission considered this matter. After discussion between Commissioners and Crooks and Staff concerning Crooks' current pipeline safety staffing situation and the importance of maintaining and executing a dedicated pipeline safety program, the Commission voted unanimously to approve the Stipulation submitted by the parties and to dismiss the Complaint without prejudice. It is therefore

ORDERED, that the Stipulation is approved and the Complaint is dismissed without prejudice.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 18th day of December, 2013.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE
The undersigned hereby certifies that this document has been served today upon all parties of record in this docket, as listed on the docket service list, electronically.
By: <u>Joy Lashley</u>
Date: <u>12/18/13</u>
(OFFICIAL SEAL)

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

Gary Hanson
GARY HANSON, Chairman

Chris Nelson
CHRIS NELSON, Commissioner

Kristie Fiegen
KRISTIE FIEGEN, Commissioner